December 17, 2025

To:

Curl Manitoba Honourary Life Membership Nominating Committee
145 Pacific Avenue
Winnipeg, MB R3B 2Z6

Re: Nomination of Shawn Taylor for Curl Manitoba Honourary Life Membership

On behalf of the Brandon Curling Club, it is my distinct pleasure to nominate **Shawn Taylor** for a **Curl Manitoba Honourary Life Membership**, in recognition of his exceptional, sustained, and wide-ranging volunteer service to the game of curling in Manitoba over several decades.

Since relocating to Brandon in 1989, Shawn has been deeply committed to the growth and advancement of curling, contributing in leadership, organizational, and developmental roles that extend well beyond the club level. Over the course of four decades, Shawn has served the Brandon Curling Club in various board and leadership capacities, including two tenures as President (2010–2013 and 2021–2023). Through this leadership, he has helped position the Brandon Curling Club as a trusted and capable host for major provincial, national, and international curling events.

Shawn has been instrumental in bringing high-profile curling events to Brandon and Western Manitoba, serving in key organizing and event chair roles for numerous championships, including the Manitoba Juniors, the Safeway Championship, the Canada Cup, and many other provincial, national, and international events hosted in Brandon over the years. His involvement in these events has directly supported Curl Manitoba's mandate by expanding access to high-level competition, strengthening volunteer capacity, and showcasing Manitoba curling on a broader stage.

In addition to his event leadership, Shawn has contributed directly at the provincial governance level. He served a four-year term as a member of the Curl Manitoba Competitions Committee, where he supported the planning, coordination, and delivery of provincial competitions and championships. Through this role, Shawn provided valuable insight grounded in athlete development, coaching experience, and event operations, contributing to fair, consistent, and high-quality competitive pathways across Manitoba.

One of Shawn's most significant and enduring contributions has been his leadership in junior curling development. Prior to his current initiatives, he played a central role in organizing and sustaining a Western Manitoba junior super league, providing young athletes with consistent, high-quality competitive opportunities over many years. In addition, Shawn has dedicated countless hours to coaching junior teams, mentoring athletes and supporting their progression through provincial-level competition. His coaching efforts include guiding his son, Travis Taylor, to win the Manitoba Junior Men's Championship and represent Manitoba at the 2007 Canadian Junior Curling Championships, reflecting his deep commitment to athlete development and excellence.

Most notably, Shawn is the founder and long-time organizer of the Sun Life Junior Challenge, which began in 2011 and completed its 13th annual event in November 2025. Shawn envisioned this event as a world-class U21 junior cash bonspiel, designed to attract elite junior teams from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Northern Ontario, and the United States. Under his leadership, the event has become a fixture on the junior curling calendar, widely respected for its high level of competition, exceptional ice conditions, and positive athlete experience.

The Sun Life Junior Challenge has had a lasting impact on junior curling in Manitoba by providing athletes with exposure to elite competition, supporting player development, and reinforcing Manitoba's reputation as a leader in junior curling. The event aligns closely with Curl Manitoba's goals of development, excellence, and long-term growth of the sport.

Shawn Taylor's volunteer service is marked by *vision, longevity, and an unwavering dedication* to curling in Manitoba. His efforts have strengthened junior development pathways, enhanced the province's ability to host major events, and positively influenced generations of athletes, volunteers, and organizers.

Please graciously accept this nomination of **Shawn Taylor** for a **Curl Manitoba Honourary Life Membership**, submitted with pride and sincere appreciation on behalf of the Brandon Curling Club. We believe his contributions embody the spirit and intent of this distinguished honour.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

W G Hargreaves

Geordie Hargreaves
President
Brandon Curling Club